

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 176

Hello, everybody! How are you doing?

Today, I'll read the first page of this story: *Beauty and the Beast*.

Once upon a time, there was a rich gentleman. He lived in a faraway country. This man owned many great ships. He bought and sold beautiful things from all over the world. His ships brought [silks] and [spices] from India and gold and diamonds from Africa.

See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 176

Hey, guys! How's it going?

So, last time in our space adventure, the heroes meet a slave boy named Anakin and the Jedi knight Qui-Gon Jinn thinks he might be powerful with the Force. Hmm, let's see what happens next...

Qui-Gon makes a bet with Watto. If Anakin places first in the next podrace, Qui-Gon wins the hyperdrive and the boy's freedom. But if the boy loses, Watto wins the Queen's royal starship. During the podrace, Anakin zips and zooms past the competition. The crowd goes wild when he crosses the finish line first.

Ahh! Thank goodness for that! So, now that Anakin has won the podrace, he has also won his freedom. So, will Qui-Gon train him to be a Jedi? And would that be a good idea? Let's find out next time!

See you, guys!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 176

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe, and still practicing proper hygiene and social distancing.

I have another story here that may not be exactly positive, but does contain some interesting language and so I thought it might be worth giving it a go. So, take a listen:

A small vessel carrying 62 people, mostly sixth-grade students on a school trip, sank November 19th in the sea off western Japan shortly after all aboard were rescued by Japan Coast Guard ships and nearby fishing boats, the coast guard said. The 19-ton Shrimp of Art was carrying 52 children from Kawatsu Elementary School in Sakaide at the time of the accident, with two of the students and a 72-year-old tour guide taken to hospital for hypothermia and hyperventilation upon being rescued, according to the Takamatsu Coast Guard Office in Kagawa Prefecture.

Oh, wow! That's definitely a pretty frightening story. Thankfully, there were no fatalities or serious injuries, and I think that is in part due to the quick response from the coast guard and those other boats. Hypothermia and hyperventilation can be quite serious, but I'm sure these three will make a speedy recovery. Now, this is, of course, quite shocking news and certainly no laughing matter, but I couldn't help but notice the name of that fishing boat was the "Shrimp of Art". Definitely a pretty interesting choice.

Alright, guys, well until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.

("Shrimp of Art" ...)